

Amendments to the Claims:

The following Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1-15. (Cancelled)

16. (Previously Presented) A fastening element for detachably fixing a disposable diaper, in which said fastening element is fitted to a tab, an ear or a belt, said fastening element comprises a fastening member having an extensible member, which extensible member has an indicator printed on a face of the extensible member which printed indicator changes with extension and contraction of the extensible member wherein the change in the printed indicator is capable of visually showing a degree of extension and contraction of the extensible member.

17. (Previously Presented) A fastening element according to claim 16, wherein said printed indicator comprises lines, patterns, numerals, symbols, illustrations, pictures, photographs, color charts, color codes or their combinations.

18. (Previously Presented) A fastening element according to claim 16, wherein said printed indicator is a print pattern printed at least partially to a surface of said extensible member or inside said extensible member, and said print pattern is deformable in accordance with extension and contraction of said extensible member.

19. (Previously Presented) A fastening element according to claim 16, wherein said printed indicator comprises a color chart printed at least partially to the surface of said extensible member, and said color chart comprises color regions of two or more colors that regularly change in a predetermined direction.

20. (Previously Presented) A fastening element according to claim 19, wherein said color chart is covered with a cover having a window-type opening at a substantial center of said color chart.

21. (Previously Presented) A fastening element according to claim 16, wherein said printed indicator comprises a colored porous sheet applied at least partially to the surface of said extensible member, and the color of said sheet is changeable in accordance with extension and contraction of said extensible member.
22. (Previously Presented) A fastening element according to claim 16, wherein said fastening member and said extensible member have a unitary structure.
23. (Previously Presented) A fastening element according to claim 22, wherein said fastening member and said extensible member are unified adjacent to each other.
24. (Previously Presented) A fastening element according to claim 22, wherein said fastening member is unified with a part of said extensible member.
25. (Previously Presented) A fastening element according to claim 16, wherein said fastening member is one of the constituent members of a mechanical fastener.
26. (Previously Presented) A fastening element according to claim 16, wherein said fastening member is an adhesive tape having an adhesive layer.
27. (Previously Presented) A fastening element according to claim 16, which is fitted to a tab, an ear or a belt of a disposable diaper.
28. (Previously Presented) An article comprising said fastening element described in claim 16.
29. (Previously Presented) An article according to claim 28, which is a disposable diaper.

30. (Previously Presented) A disposable diaper according to claim 29, which is an open type disposable diaper, and said fastening element is fitted to a tab, an ear or a belt of said disposable tab.

31. (New) A fastening element according to claim 20, wherein said cover cannot be substantially seen through, and wherein the color regions can be observed through the window-type opening.

32. (New) A fastening element according to claim 20, wherein said window-type opening can extend and contract in accordance with the extension and contraction of the extensible member.